



The Dedham Coalition for Drugs and Alcohol Awareness

Website: www.dedham-ma.gov/DCFDA

Meeting Minutes: November 3, 2015 6-7 PM

Attendance: Mike Butler, Selectman. Jessica Gardner, Public Health Nurse. Elizabeth Martin, Dedham Times. Mike D'Entremont, Police Chief. Bill Spillane, Fire Chief. Joyce Burke. Debbie Anderson, Recreation Dept. Flo Sabatino, Learn2Cope. Amy Thomas, Learn2Cope. Linda Krusz, DCFDAA Volunteer. Janet Whelton, Nar-a-non. Fred Newton, President & CEO of Hope House. Billy Vietze, NA. Brenda Keogh. Theresa Heislet. Leanne Jasset, Board of Health. Paul Shaughnessy, Parole Officer.

- Guest Speaker Fred Newton, President of Hope House and a member of Governor Baker's Opioid Addiction Working Group talked about his experience and theories on how addiction and recovery should be addressed. Specifically, he is assisting with legislature to better mandate hospital stays for overdose victims and asks for support on new legislature in regards to addiction recovery. Fred spoke about how there is a need for more recovery "beds" & and to assist at risk populations i.e. newly released incarcerated persons who cannot sign up for health insurance for 90 days. Taunton State Hospital is in the process of opening up beds and potentially the Shattuck Hospital too.
- Jessica Gardner to email coalition leadership and surveys for future grants.
- Janet Whelton gave presentation and information on the Angels Program out of Gloucester. Will follow-up with Police Chief with more details.
- Billy Vietze, Narcotics Anonymous (NA) talked about the NA program including current areas that have meetings. Due to Dedham not having a NA meeting in the Town, Billy gave tips and ideas on where future meeting locations should be held and coordinating with other meeting times. **Dedham is in need for commitment and location to hold NA meetings.**
- Open Discussion:
 - Paul Shaughnessy talked about the need for more recovery beds and his experience in the court system when people come looking for help. When there are no beds left, Bridgewater State Prison is the next viable option.
 - Understanding how insurance companies work in regards to substance abuse and recovery facilities is a target topic for next meeting.
 - Mike Butler suggests if there is a way to get data on those insured or not for emergency response, without violating rights of the individual, we could identify if uninsured adults could be a gap in assisting at-risk populations.

Meetings to be held the 1st Tuesday of every month until further notice. Next meeting December 1, 2015 6-7PM